

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 02897 242200Z

67

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 SS-20

NSC-07 OMB-01 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /119 W

----- 033099

P R 241950Z MAY 74

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5898

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 4021

S E C R E T USNATO 2897

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS/ PFOR, NATO

SUBJ: NATOMIN:AGENDA FOR JUNE NAC MINISTERIAL IN OTTAWA AND
RESTRUCTURING OF FORMAT

REF: (A) STATE 109176; (B) STATE 107849 (NOTAL); (C) USNATO 3804
(NOTAL)

SUMMARY: MAY 24 NAC DISCUSSION ON AGENDA AND FORMAT FOR OTTAWA
MINISTERIAL RESULTED IN GENRAL AGREEMENT ON THE AGENDA BUT
DETERIORATION IN PREVIOUS PROGRESS TOWARD REVISING THE MINISTERIAL
FORMAT. END SUMMARY

1. THE REVISED DRAFT AGENDA CONSIDERED AT MAY 24 NAC (PO/74/67)
WAS RECEIVED BY MISSION ON MAY 23. IT CONTAINED TWO COMPLETELY
NEW ITEMS WHICH HAD NOT APPEARED IN PREVIOUS DRAFTS, NOR BEEN
MENTIONED IN PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS AMONG PERMREPS OR SENIOR
POLADS. THESE WERE "THE ALLIANCE'S DEFENCE INDUSTRY AND
TECHNOLOGY" AND "REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE OF NATIONAL ARMAMENTS
DIRECTORS". BOTH ITEMS ALSO APPEAR ON THE JUNE DPC MINISTERIAL
AGENDA. US REP (MCAULIFFE) OBJECTED ON PERSONAL BASIS TO THESE
TWO SUBJECTS BEING CARRIED ON THE NAC MINISTERIAL AGENDA AS SEPARATE
ITEMS. HE SUGGESTED THAT FONMINS WHO WISHED TO ADDRESS
THEM MIGHT DO SO UNDER "OTHER POLITICAL SUBJECTS". IN BRIEF
SECRET

PAGE 02 NATO 02897 242200Z

DISCUSSION, FRANCE ESTABLISHED THE POINT THAT THEY BOTH WERE
PROPER SUBJECTS TO BE DISCUSSED AT "FIFTEEN", THEN THE COUNCIL
AGREED THEY NEED NOT REPEAT NOT APPEAR AS SEPARATE ITEMS, AND
ADOPTED THE US SUGGESTION.

2. THE AGENDA, SUBSTANTIALLY AS SET FORTH IN REF C, WAS APPROVED. THE COUNCIL AGREED THAT SHOULD PROGRESS TOWARD THE NATO DECLARATION BECOME DERAILED, ITEM I, ATLANTIC RELATIONS, MIGHT BE REMOVED FROM FIRST POSITION AND PUT FURTHER DOWN IN THE AGENDA.

3. MCAULIFFE BEGAN DISCUSSION ON THE FORMAT WITH BRIEF STATEMENT FAVORING RESTRUCTURING THE DEBATE AT THE OTTAWA MINISTERIAL INTO SHORT INTERVENTION FOCUSED ON INDIVIDUAL AGENDA ITEMS RATHER THAN HAVING EACH MINISTER TURN OVER VIRTUALLY THE WHOLE FIELD IN A SINGLE COMPREHENSIVE STATEMENT. SUCH RESTRUCTURING, HE SAID, WOULD MORE CLOSELY RESEMBLE A TRUE DISCUSSION AND DECISION-MAKING PROCESS, WITH THE PROBLEMS OF THE MOMENT BEING ADDRESSED MORE DIRECTLY, THUS ENSURING GREATER LIVELINESS AND INTEREST.

4. MCAULIFFE SAID FACT THAT MANY ALLIED FONMINS ARE NEW TO THEIR JOBS AND WILL BE PARTICIPATING IN THEIR FIRST NAC MINISTERIAL IS ALL THE MORE REASON TO ADOPT AN APPROACH OF DISCUSSING SUBJECTS ONE AT A TIME. THUS, IF ANY DELEGATIONS INSIST ON GENERAL STATEMENTS, THE US FEELS MINISTERS SHOULD EITHER DISTRIBUTE THEM IN ADVANCE AND NOT READ THEM IN THE COUNCIL, OR MINISTERS SHOULD MAKE THEM AFTER THE DISCUSSIONS ON SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS.

5. MCAULIFFE ADDED THAT THE US HOPES THAT SYG LUNS WILL SUM UP MINISTERIAL DISCUSSIONS IN OTTAWA AFTER EACH AGENDA ITEM. IN ADDITION TO ITS OTHER ADVANTAGES, THIS PROCEDURE WOULD BE OF SIGNIFICANT ASSISTANCE TO THE COMMUNIQUE DRAFTING SESSION WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE THE EVENING OF JUNE 18.

6. THE UK RESTATED ITS PREVIOUS POSITION OF NOT HAVING STRONG PREFERENCE FOR ONE FORMAT OR ANOTHER PROVIDED THERE WAS UNIFORMITY OF PRACTICE. THE UK WAS QUITE READY TO PROCEED WITH DISCUSSION ON ONE ITEM AT A TIME AND WAS GENERALLY OPPOSED TO LONG GENERAL STATEMENTS, BUT IT RECOGNIZED DELEGATES WHOSE NATIVE TONGUE WAS OTHER THAN ENGLISH OR FRENCH MIGHT NOT WISH TO ENGAGE IN SPECIFIC
SECRET

PAGE 03 NATO 02897 242200Z

DISCUSSIONS.

7. ITALIAN REP, PROFESSING TO AGREE WITH THE UK, SPECULATED THAT WHILE SEPARATE DISCUSSIONS MIGHT BE A GOOD IDEA, NOT ALL FONMINS WOULD AGREE--SO HOW ABOUT "BRIEF" GENERAL STATEMENTS. THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT WITHIN THE COUNCIL THAT EVEN IF A TIME LIMIT, OF FOR EXAMPLE TEN MINUTES, WAS RECOMMENDED, FONMINS SIMPLY WOULD NOT ABIDE BY IT.

8. THE PORTUGUESE REP REFERRED TO THE POLITICAL CHANGES WHICH HAVE RECENTLY TAKEN PLACE IN HIS COUNTRY AND SAID THAT BECAUSE OF INTEREST ON THE PART OF THE ALLIES IN THE POLICIES OF THE NEW GOVTIN LISBON, THE PORTUGUES FONMIN WISHES TO MAKE

A GENERAL STATEMENT IN OTTAWA. HE WOULD NOT CARE TO CIRCULATE IT IN ADVANCE BUT WOULD WISH TO READ IT.

9. IN HIS SUMMARY ACTING SYG PANSA INACCURATELY CONCLUDED THAT THERE SEEMED TO BE AGREEMENT THAT MINISTERS WOULD READ GENERAL STATEMENTS, BUT WITH SOME SORT OF RECOMMENDED TIME LIMIT, PERHAPS TEN MINUTES.

10. COMMENT: THIS DISCUSSION, WHILE REMINISCENT OF PREVIOUS ONES ON THIS SUBJECT, SHOWED EVEN MORE VIVIDLY THE DIFFICULTIES IN ACHIEVING A CHANGED MINISTERIAL FORMAT. MISSION CALCULATES THAT A MAJORITY OF DELEGATIONS WOULD GO ALONG WITH THE PROPOSED CHANGES. A MINORITY PERFERES GENERAL INTERVENTION RATHER THAN SPECIFIC DISCUSSIONS OF EACH AGENDA ITEM, SOME DELEGATIONS INSIST THAT WHATEVER THE PROCEDURE USED, IT SHOULD BE ADHERED TO BY ALL. THUS, DISCUSSIONS ON THIS TOPIC CONTINUE TO END INCONCLUSIVELY AS THIS COMBINATION OF POSITIONS INHIBITS FORMAL AGREEMENT TO BREAK OUT OF THE EXISTING ROUTINE.

11. IN MISSION VIEW TWO THINGS ARE NEEDED TO ACHIEVE NEW FORMAT:

A) STRONG LEADERSHIP FROM LUNS AND THEUS; AND, B) SOME FLEXIBILITY IN A NEW FORMAT TO ACCOMMODATE THOSE MINISTERS WHO INSISTS ON DOING A TOUR D'HORIZON DESPITE THE AGENDA. ACCORDINGLY, MISSION PROPOSES: A) TO SPEAK TO LUNS AND ENCOURAGE HIM TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE IN THIS MATTER; B) TO SPEAK TO THE BRITISH ASKING THEM TO FALL OFF THEIR INSISTENCE THAT ALL FONMINS FOLLOW THE SAME PROCEDURE; AND C) TO STRESS
SECRET

PAGE 04 NATO 02897 242200Z

AT MAY 28 PERMREPS LUNCH AND FUTURE MEETINGS ON THIS SUBJECT THE US POSITION THAT IF THERE ARE TO BE ANY GENERAL STATEMENTS, THEY SHOULD FOLLOW CONCLUSIONS OF ALL DISCUSSIONS ON SEPARATE AGENDA ITEMS.

12. REQUEST WASHINGTON GUIDANCE. END COMMENT

13. ON THE SUBJECT OF A PRIVATE SESSION AMONG MINISTERS MCAULIFFE ALSO SAID THE US HOPES THERE WILL BE A PRIVATE MEETING ON JUNE 18. IN BRIEF DISCUSSION ON THIS SUBJECT, SEVERAL DELEGATIONS THOUGHT SCHEDULING OF A PRIVATE MEETING WOULD AWAIT PROGRESS IN THE NATO DECLARATION. THE COUNCIL THUS AGREED TO DEFER A DECISION ON THIS MATTER FOR THE TIME BEING. MCAULIFFE

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 11 JUN 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974USNATO02897
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: USNATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740589/dcnclaar.tel
Line Count: 155
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 1974 STATE 109176, (B) 1974 STATE 107849 (NOTAL); (C) 1974 USNATO 3804 (NOTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 APR 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <26 JUL 2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 19990816; <DBA CORRECTED> jms 19990818
Subject: NATOMIN:AGENDA FOR JUNE NAC MINISTERIAL IN OTTAWA AND RESTRUCTURING OF
TAGS: PFOR, NATO
To: STATE
SECDEF INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005